

Agenda Date: 11/28/00 Agenda Item: 7A

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark. NJ 07102

CABLE TELEVISION

IN THE MATTER OF COMCAST)	
CABLEVISION CONSOLIDATED)	
OPERATIONS THAT INCLUDE THE SYSTEMS)	
OF BURLINGTON, CENTRAL, GLOUCESTER)	
JERSEY CITY, MEADOWLANDS, MERCER)	
MONMOUTH, OCEAN, NEW JERSEY,)	
NORTHWEST AND PLAINFIELD FOR)	ORDER ADOPTING STIPULATION
APPROVAL OF THE FILING OF AN)	
AGGREGATE FCC FORM 1205 DETER-)	
MINING REGULATED INSTALLATION AND)	
EQUIPMENT COSTS USING THE OPTIONAL)	
EXPEDITED RATE PROCEDURES)	DOCKET NO. CR00080547

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On August 1, 2000, Comcast Cablevision Consolidated Operations that include the systems of Burlington, Central, Gloucester, Jersey City, Meadowlands, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean, New Jersey, Northwest and Plainfield ("Petitioner") filed an aggregated Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") Form 1205, Docket Number CR00080547, seeking approval by the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") for regulated equipment and installation costs affecting these rate districts in the State of New Jersey pursuant to the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, 47 <u>U.S.C.</u> § 543 <u>et seq.</u>, and provisions of the New Jersey Cable Television Act, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:5A-1 <u>et seq.</u>

The Board, at its public meeting on January 10, 1996, Docket Number CX95120636, approved the implementation of Optional Expedited Rate Procedures for the processing of certain filings made with the Office of Cable Television ("OCTV"). The intended purpose of these procedures is to grant final rates as quickly as possible to any cable company that chooses this process. In the spirit of cooperation based on the principles of Alternate Dispute Resolution ("ADR"), the discovery content is limited, thereby reducing the timeframe for settlement.

Petitioner chose to pursue its filing with the Board through the approved procedures. To that end, a pre-transmittal conference was held on September 1, 2000 and attended by representatives of the Petitioner, the Division of the Ratepayer Advocate and Board Staff. Petitioner agreed to waive its Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") litigation rights for this matter. It should be noted that Petitioner's waiver was a knowing, voluntary and intelligent waiver of its litigation rights at the OAL and that the waiver did not constitute a circumvention of the FCC's rules nor did it affect Petitioner's right to appeal in that forum.

Petitioner notified its customers of the rate changes by way of a newspaper announcement informing them of their opportunity to submit written comments to the Board for a period of thirty days commencing from September 12, 2000 to October 12, 2000. During this time, no comments were received as a result of this public notice.

Upon review by Staff and the Ratepayer Advocate of the supporting documentation, schedules and other discovery requests, a settlement conference was held on September 8, 2000. On November 9, 2000, the parties entered into a Stipulation of Settlement.

The Board has reviewed the Stipulation and finds it to be reasonable, in the public interest and in accordance with the law. Therefore, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS the Stipulation of Settlement (attached hereto) as its own, incorporating by reference the terms and conditions therein as if fully set forth at length herein.

DATED: December 6, 2000 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

(signed)

HERBERT H. TATE PRESIDENT

(signed)

FREDERICK F. BUTLER COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

(signed)

FRANCES L. SMITH SECRETARY

IN THE MATTER OF COMCAST CABLEVISION CONSOLIDATED OPERATIONS THAT INCLUDE THE SYSTEMS OF BURLINGTON, CENTRAL, GLOUCESTER, JERSEY CITY, MEADOWLANDS, MERCER, MONMOUTH, OCEAN, NEW JERSEY, NORTHWEST AND PLAINFIELD FCC FORM 1205 USING THE OPTIONAL EXPEDITED RATE PROCEDURES

DOCKET NOS. CR00080547

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